Joint working group against terrorism

2269. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up Joint Working Groups against terrorism, trafficking and narcotic drugs with other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of agreements signed with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has agreements with several countries, including arrangements for Joint Working Groups, for strengthening cooperation to combat terrorism. These provide a framework for cooperation in various ways, including through exchange of information and assessments on terrorism, training and curbing drug trafficking as well as capacity building.

Indo-Russian Agreements

2270. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI LALIT SURI:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of subjects on which agreements were signed between India and Russia during Russian President's visit to India early this month, with details thereof:

(b) whether any assistance is expected in field of nuclear power reactors also;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the two Governments have been facing problems in implementing earlier agreements/pacts between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken/proposed to be taken by the two Governments to sort out the problems/obstacles being faced at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) A total of 11 documents were signed during Russian President's visit to India from 3-5 December, 2004, including a Joint Declaration and Agreements covering the areas of Space, Consular matters, Regional and Institutional Cooperation as well as Banking and Energy sectors the Details of Agreements signed are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(b) One Nuclear Power Station at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu is under construction with Russia's assistance.

(c) An agreement between India and the USSR on cooperation in the construction of a Nuclear Power Station consisting of two 1000 Mw reactors was signed on 20th November, 1988. Supplement to the 1988 Agreement on the construction of Kudankulam NPP with Russian assistance was signed in 1998.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Brief Note on Declaration/Agreements/MoUs signed during President Putin's visit to India (3-5 December, 2004)

1. **Joint declaration by the Republic of India and the Russian Federation**

This Joint declaration emphasized the strategic partnership between the Russian Federation and the Republic of India. The document notes the transformation in the global environment in the recent past and stresses the need for a new international architecture based on a multi-polar world. A substantial and new emphasis on economic relations including the field of energy. It and banking has been made.

2. **Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Exploration and use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes**

This is an umbrella agreement, which will replace the 1994 Agreement between India and Russian Federation on cooperation in the field of exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. The main purpose of this agreement is to create an organizational and legal

framework for mutually beneficial cooperation in specific areas of joint activities relating to the exploration, use of outer space, and practical application of space systems and technologies for peaceful purposes.

3. Agreement on Long-term Cooperation in the Field of Joint Development and Use of Russian Global Navigational Satellite system GLONASS for Peaceful Purposes

This agreement provides a framework for cooperation in areas relating to the development, operation and utilization of the Global Satellite Navigation Technologies [GLONASS].

4. Agreement on visa free travel between India and the Russian Federation for mutual travel by holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports

The Agreement facilitates the holders of diplomatic and official passports of India and Russia to travel to each other's country without the necessity of obtaining a prior visa.

5. Cooperation Agreement on Cooperation between the City of Mumbai, Republic of India and the City of St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

The document will facilitate cooperation between Mumbai City in India and St. Petersburg City in the Russian Federation in the field of trade, economy, industry, tourism, culture and education.

6. MoU between ECGC and Exim Bank & Vnesheconom Bank

The purpose of this document is to establish a framework for co-operation between the business, trading companies in supporting and encouraging trade and investments between India and Russia.

7. MoU on Cooperation between SBI and SBER Bank

The MoU will facilitate direct banking relationship between the Indian and Russian companies.

8. MoU on Cooperation between Canara bank and SBER Bank

This document facilitates commercial and bank-to-bank payments.

9. Strategic Co-operation Agreement between GAIL and GAZPROM

This covers co-operation in relation to exploration and delivery of natural gas in Russian and India and third countries.

10. MoU between GAIL and STROITRANSGAZ

The cooperation envisages underground storage project in India, Russian and third countries.

11. Agreement of Co-operation between Centre of National Glory, Moscow and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

The two institutions will be parties/partners in research, teaching and to further promote the "dialogue of civilization" programme

Indo-Japan relations

2271. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan Foreign Minister visited India in the month of August, 2004;

(b) if so, whether the visit provided an opportunity to review bilateral relations with Japan including steps being taken to further concretize the global partnership;

(c) if so, what were the main points discussed with Japan foreign Minister; and

(d) to what extent both countries have agreed to improve the relations especially economic trade and industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) During the visit, External Affairs Minister had very productive discussions with the Japanese Foreign Minister Kawaguchi on a wide range of bilateral, multilateral and global issues, with special focus on how to strengthen the India-Japan Global Partnership. Both sides exchanged useful ideas on further development of multi-faceted cooperation centering on broadening and deepening of bilateral relations and cooperating with each other in meeting global challenges. Both countries